

Appl'n No: 10/564,450
Reply to Office Action dated July 26, 2006
Amdt dated October 26, 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following paragraph on page 1 after the Title:

This patent application is a §371 of PCT/US04/023374, filed on July 21, 2004, which claims priority to and all the benefits of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/488,899 filed on July 21, 2003.

Please amend paragraph [0027] as follows:

[0027] When the control arm 36 is in the support position, as shown in Figures 5 and 8, the control arm 36 presses the plate 56 away from the side frame members 16, 18; thereby giving the plate 56 a curved shape. The plurality of lateral fingers 62 allows the plate 56 to bend, but not break, in response to such pressing by the control arm 36. When the control arm 36 is in the stowage position, as shown in Figure 9, the control arm 36 does not exert a force on the plate 56 so that the plate 56 is generally planar.

Please amend paragraph [0032] as follows:

[0032] To move the armrest 30 from the retracted position back to the use position, the armrest 30 is pivoted downwards towards the lower cross member [[20]] 26. The movement of the armrest 30 urges the first link member 38 to pivot relative to the side frame members 16, 18 towards the lower stop 50 mounted therealong. At the same time, the second link member 40 pivots about the link pin 42 in a direction opposite to that of the first link member 38. The

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second link member 40 pivots out away from the side frame members 16, 18. At the same time, the control arm 36 pivots about the pivot pin 37 relative to the lower cross member 26 and away from the side frame members 16, 18. The control arm 36 presses the plate 56 to give a curved shape to the plate 56 for forming a side bolster to support an occupant of a vehicle. The first link member 38 continues to pivot until it abuts the lower stop 50, at which time the armrest 30 has reached its use position. The abutment of the first link member 38 against the lower stop 50 also stops the pivoting of the second link member 40 about the link pin 42. At this time, the control arm 36 has reached its support position.